

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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## Third Weekend of Jane Byrne Closures Start Friday

**CHICAGO** – The Illinois Department of Transportation is reminding motorists that the third of four weekends of lane closures on the expressway system surrounding the Jane Byrne Interchange in Chicago takes place starting Friday evening. This weekend's closures will not be as comprehensive as the first two, but the public is advised to expect delays and plan accordingly.

The closures are necessary for the installation of steel beams that will support the deck of the new flyover bridge linking the inbound Dan Ryan Expressway (westbound Interstate 90/94) to the outbound Eisenhower Expressway (westbound Interstate 290), part of the larger overhaul of the Jane Byrne Interchange.

The following ramps and lanes will be closed, weather permitting:

• The outbound Eisenhower (I-290) at the Byrne Interchange will close at 10 p.m. Friday. Traffic can still access the I-90/94 exit ramps.

A detour will direct traffic to the outbound Dan Ryan and the 18<sup>th</sup> Street interchange to access the outbound Eisenhower via the inbound Dan Ryan. Lower Wacker Drive will follow this same detour.

All lanes on the outbound Eisenhower will reopen by 5 a.m. Monday.

• The inbound Kennedy Expressway (I-90/94) between Ohio Street and Harrison Street will be reduced to one lane at 8 p.m. Saturday, with all lanes closed just before the junction with the Eisenhower for 15-minute intervals between 10 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. Sunday.

A recommended detour while all lanes are closed will direct traffic to the outbound Eisenhower's Ashland Avenue interchange to access the outbound Dan Ryan from the inbound Eisenhower.

All lanes on the inbound Kennedy will reopen by 10 a.m. Sunday.

Drivers are urged to pay close attention to flaggers and signs in the work zones, obey the posted speed limits and be on the alert for workers and equipment. The IDOT's Emergency Traffic Patrol (Minutemen) and Illinois State Police (ISP) will have extra patrols in the work zone.

Dynamic Message Signs and traffic control aides with the city's Office of Emergency Management & Communications (OEMC) will be throughout the immediate area and on the detour routes to help maintain the flow of traffic. Motorists merely traveling through the region and seeking to avoid the work zone are advised to use Interstate 80, Interstate 39, Interstate 294 (Tri-State Tollway), Interstate 355 (Veterans Memorial Tollway) and Lake Shore Drive.

The Regional Transportation Authority reminds residents to visit the RTA Trip Planner, at <a href="https://www.rtachicago.org">www.rtachicago.org</a>, to find alternate means of travel using the region's public transportation system.

The new flyover will replace an existing single-lane, winding ramp with a two-lane ramp and bridge that begins just south of Roosevelt Road and arches over Harrison Street, the rest of the Jane Byrne Interchange and Halsted Street before connecting to the outbound Eisenhower near Morgan Street.

The final weekend of closures are scheduled to take place Oct. 16-18.

A time-lapse video from the work that took place the first two weekends can be viewed at IDOT's YouTube channel and on the project website at www.circleinterchange.org.

Please visit <u>www.circleinterchange.org</u> for complete project details and closure information, including a streaming high-resolution view of the work zone. For regular updates on this and other projects, follow IDOT on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter</u>.